

# The Jersey Bounce

## Spring Issue / 2004

### USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS REUNION TO BE IN WASHINGTON D.C.



Korean Memorial



Vietnam Memorial



The White House

The Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, VA. will be the home of our next reunion. We are all scheduled to muster on Wednesday; 29 September until Sunday; 3 October, 2004 for what promises to be a very uplifting experience. For those of you who have never had the opportunity to visit our nations capital, you are in for something very special. Washington D.C. is a place of reflection of ones pride in our country and at the same time a sense of home as our Nations Capital. Whether staring into the faces that look back at you in the Korean Memorial. Running your hand over a name you recognize on the Vietnam Memorial Wall. Saluting the Lone Sailor statue at the Navy Memorial. Standing by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier or finally, after all these years, seeing for the first time the long overdue WWII Memorial, a great many smiles will appear and a few tears will be shed. A remarkable testimonial to a President is to see the memorial to FDR. A true, don't miss it if you can help it, experience. During our reunion, a great many tours and opportunities are being offered. While it is very hard, if not impossible, to take in everything during one visit, do take time to honor those who came before us and paid the ultimate sacrifice in order that we may enjoy the many fruits of our great land. As an organization, there are very few locations that we could have selected as this one is. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in our Nations Capital of Washington D.C. Remember, please bring your cruise books!



### **Vietnam Veterans Tour "The Wall"**

Members of the USS New Jersey Veterans Vietnam Era will be joining together on Friday' October 1st for a special tour of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Be there for the ceremonial Wreath Laying and Bugler Presentation. For those of you who have already visited "The Wall", you know the emotion that it brings. For those of you who have not yet taken the pilgrimage, nothing will compare to your experiencing this moment with fellow shipmates who shared in this period in time with you. If for no other reason, don't miss out on this years USS New Jersey Veterans Association Reunion. In your lifetime, you will never forget this experience. Contact Larry Kalakauskis for additional information about this event.



## USS New Jersey Reunion Information

**Wednesday; September 29, 2004 - Sunday; October 3, 2004**



Our 2004 New Jersey Veterans Association Reunion will be in historic Washington DC at the Hilton Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia. For you mapquest fans, the address is 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, 22202. Our hotel is located just a stones throw from Ronald Reagan Airport (DCA). How ironic that our reunion is being held just a short distant from the airport that is named after the President who brought our ship back into service for its last time in battle. The Hotel features a large pool and

work-out area to help with the food offerings in the Ondines restaurant. The Concierge Lounge and Clarks Lobby Bar will offer fine opportunities to sit with a cold tall glass and share a story or two. Best of all, our hotel room features in room coffee service and plenty of ice. Located just 3 miles from The White House, Smithsonian Museum, Arlington National Cemetery and The Iwo Jima Monument, you will be center stage to the attractions and history that brings so many people back home to our Nations Capital. Our Room Rates are guaranteed at \$89 per night by calling 1-800-695-7551 and telling the reservation clerk that you are a member in good standing of the USS New Jersey Veterans Association. Not sure that is a good rate? The hotels best rate on a fully refundable reservation during these same dates is \$179.00 per night. It should also be noted that parking is a premium in all major cities. The Washington D.C. area is no exception and as a result, there is a \$16 per night parking fee, but Ray negotiated that down to \$8 and that will be added to the cost of your accommodations. If you are flying into Ronald Reagan airport, pick up your baggage and then call the hotel for their free shuttle service. Ray Casey has worked hard to put together an outstanding array of tours and special features just for our association at the best prices possible. Our hotel is just a start of a very exciting time that is sure to bring about very special memories for each and every one of us.

Arriving early, please contact Joe Parambo and offer your shipmate a hand mustering up all the items for the Ships Store. Gotta a couple of hours to kill, how about volunteering to man a booth with Joe. The stories alone make your time worth while. Remember, if you are looking for something special, pick it up at the Ships Store. We don't want to ship to many of these wonderful items back to Chesapeake. Joe drives a Pinto and there just isn't all that much room for extra supplies and shipping costs just kill the funds available to more important stuff, like free beer and coffee.

2004 is also the year we vote for our directors. It is the year that will help shape the direction of our association for a long time to come. You can be a part of it by offering up your name in nomination for any elected position. If you are interested in having your name placed on a ballet please contact Mr. Chuck Smith at 239-542-7513. Remember, according to the bi-laws of the USS New Jersey Veterans Association, you must be present to vote, so please make every effort to be in at this years event.

Time is a major commodity, please don't waste it. Call ahead for your room reservation, They Must Be Made Before July 18th to guarentee your room rate. remember, you can cancel with no penalty 48 hours before your arrival. send in your registration forms, book your tours and lock in a great price on airfare while it is still fresh in your mind and the excitement is all pent up inside awaiting the time to be with your fellow shipmates again. These opportunities do not come around often and the chance to spend that time in of all places Washington D.C. is just one of those that you don't want to regret missing out on. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call Military Reunion Planners at 817-251-3551 between the weekday hours of 9 am. - 4 pm. Central Standard Time or e-mail them at

[info@militaryreunionplanners.com](mailto:info@militaryreunionplanners.com)



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### **From The President**

Dear Shipmates,

It is with sad feelings that I write this, my last letter as your President. Where did 8 years go? They have been 8 good and very memorable years.

I would like first to thank my fellow officers and the membership for the cooperation and support that I was given during this time. I never expected to run for the office of President. After much thought, I agreed to accept the nomination. I have never been sorry that I made this decision. At that time the Board of Directors knew the organization was having financial difficulty. However, with a few fund raisers, the support of the membership and a little trimming here and there, we were able to become financially sound. Thanks to the effort of Ed Campbell and Larry Kalakauskis a website was created. More information about our organization was available. Therefore, our membership began to grow.

One of the most memorable moments of my first term was escorting 33 WWII plank owners to Bremerton Naval Shipyard to start the New Jersey on her way home. That was one emotional trip I will never forget.

At the end of my first term I knew there was one more goal I wanted to reach, and that was to host the first ever reunion aboard our beloved ship. That was not an easy task. It took two years and a few trips to Camden New Jersey. With the help of Treasurer Dick McDowell, Vice President Fred Adams and Bob LaVine Assistant Reunion Coordinator, we accomplished what we set out to do, have the reunion to end all reunions September 13, 2002. As I stood at the podium on the stern and looked out over a crowd of 1300 shipmates, family and guests, I knew we had succeeded in having a reunion that would never be forgotten.

These years have been very rewarding. My wife and I will cherish always the friendships we have made over the years. I may be leaving office but I will always be ready, willing and able to help in any way needed.

I cannot close this letter without thanking my wife Marilyn and my daughter-in-laws Chris and Wendy. They have always been there to advise, help and do whatever I asked of them. I think they love the Jersey as much as we do.

I hope to see a big turnout for our reunion in Washington. Remember, if you booked your hotel at the Doubletree Hotel, please cancel your room and re-book at the Hilton Hotel in Chrystal City, VA. Until then, smooth sailing.

Fraternally yours,

*Richard Esser*

Richard Esser  
President  
USS New Jersey Veterans, Inc.



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## The Editors Page

This is my second publication to go to print as your editor of The Jersey Bounce. The last edition brought about a great deal of interesting challenges and an even greater amount of learning. If you are reading this in March, I have learned enough to keep on going, if not, then I am sure everyone is looking for a new person to fill this position. One of the interesting parts of this job is the amount of e-mail that I receive with suggestions for insertion. Some of you have a great deal too much time on your hands. However, I do enjoy the reading. The items that I select for publication are chosen based on what I hope everyone will find interesting, what is relevant to the USS New Jersey and her crew, how it will work in the newsletter and by the space available. Thanks for the ideas and the thoughts. It does make this a whole lot more interesting to publish with your input.

Going to Washington D.C. is really going to be a special time for everyone. Whether you have been there before or this is your first trip you will be completely thrilled with being there. The people, the history, the travel, the sights, the food, just about everything is magnified. There are few cities in the world that cater to so many different worlds the way that Washington D.C. does. There are also few cities that can match the history built into one place in such a short amount of time. Work on the city began in 1790 and it wasn't until 1800 that the seat of government was moved from Philadelphia and John Adams became the first President to hold office in the new Capital. If only for a few months before losing his bid for re-election to Thomas Jefferson. Boy, what would the nickel look like had John Adams won that race. Anyway, it took France thousands of years to accomplish what America did in just 204 years. Good thing we didn't need a permission slip for that too.

For those of you with school age children, this is a wonderful place to teach them real history. Not just the stuff that they attempt to teach in schools across America, real history that they can touch, feel and see for themselves. For those of you who are now living the life of freedom (no kids at home) bring along your best walking shoes as its going to be an adventure. The nostalgia is fantastic and the sights are like only those you can dream about. Also remember too, this is the Capital of the Greatest Free Nation in the World. Freedom of Speech is one of our greatest inalienable rights. You will most likely see this in your everyday walks around the city, particularly with our Presidential Elections scheduled for just over a month after we arrive. Demonstrations of that "Right" can be seen nearly everyday as people gather together to express their views in hopes that our elected officials will hear them and effect change the way that they see it should be. Some of what these people would like to see changed or effected might be contrary to your opinion or the opinion of many Americans. But do remember, we all served in order to protect the right to express our thoughts in just this way. Thank God for that blessing.

Elections are also an important part of this reunion. You will notice that there are a number of people requesting to be considered for various offices within our organizations and a few members who are stepping down after so many wonderful years service. This includes Dick Esser, our President. He is passing on the baton and will not seek reelection to that post for another term. Please read carefully the view and thoughts of each candidate. Talk with them at the reunion to find out their views on the direction that should be taken in regards to were our organization is heading. Then, in accordance with our bi-laws, place your paper ballot voting for the people that you would intrust to keep our fine group growing strong for the next generation to learn from as well. It is our history that keeps us moving forward. We must keep it alive and growing strong.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Washington D.C.

Look for the next issue of the Jersey Bounce to appear in your mailbox next November.

**Peter V.**





Larry Kalakauskis; Liaison Officer / Director  
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## Larry's Letter

Greetings All!

Well another letter to write. Don't this beat all. Here we go with another Reunion, the 17<sup>th</sup>, to be exact, in our Nation's Capital no less.

As everyone realizes the cost of living is going up and the cost for the reunions has to go up in relation to the COL. There will be a \$5.00 registration fee for all Members and Associate Members, this small fee helps to defray the costs. I pray that you will not use the cat-o-nine tails on your Board of Directors as this was in the new revised by-laws.

As you all are aware, this is the Voting Reunion for the Election of new, old and added officers that will make a much better organization for us all. Already the new District Volunteers and the ERA Representative are doing a heck of a job getting our rosters well up to date. "Bravo Zulu" to them all. I still need a 1950's North District Volunteer, a 1960's South District Volunteer, a 1980's Gulf East District Volunteer and of course four for the 1940's District Volunteers. It's an easy job and it doesn't have to be a 1940's member, anyone can volunteer. Anybody wishing to try the stated positions, please contact me. We have also added on about 50-60 new members to our organization since last September and are still getting more.

For the Vietnam Era Veterans, there will be a special Wreath Laying at the VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALL with both Capt.'s Snyder, (RAdm. /USN/Ret.) and Capt.'s Peniston, USN Ret. Laying the wreath. (Keep fingers crossed that both our skippers are and will be in good health to be able to come do this.) Hopefully our other shipmate, Bert Trotter, Vietnam Ship's Official Bugler, will be able to participate with "TAPS" for our Brothers and Sisters of the Vietnam Era that did not make it back, and the names of our Vietnam Shipmates who have passed on will also be read at the Memorial. Shipmate Frank Larose, S-Div.& 2<sup>nd</sup>. Div., Vietnam Era, will be procuring a very masterfully made wreath for us, I want to thank him for his diligent efforts in helping to make this Vietnam Memorial remembered by all. I'm asking as many Vietnam Era Shipmates as possible to be there, as this may be the only and last time for all of us at the "WALL" with our Commanding Officers. Remember our saying "IT WAS RIGHT."

To all other shipmates of all Eras I hope to see you all again, God willing.

Respectfully,

Larry "Ski" Kalakauskis, BTC USN Ret.  
Liaison Officer USS New Jersey Vets. Inc.



**If you are booked into the Doubletree Hotel  
Please Cancel & Rebook into the Hilton Garden City**



**Richard Mc Dowell; Membership Chairman**

## **Membership Directors Letter**

Greetings Fellow Shipmates:

It is very rewarding to receive new members from all our different eras. I know as time goes on we lose some of our shipmates. We seem to get new members from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon and peacetime. What makes me proud is that the families want to become members. As I said before, we are family.

People seem to forget that our dues are Twenty Dollars a year. We now have 1384 paid members. Some of these members have paid their dues a year or two in advance. We still have 224 members who are on the inactive list. They were mailed a dues notice and never responded. Some have moved and have never given me an address change. We hate to miss people, so please remember, if you move, let us know. Pay your dues every year in October or at the Reunion. You can pay in advance if you choose. You can also invite your family to join as associate members for the same low price of only Twenty Dollars per year.

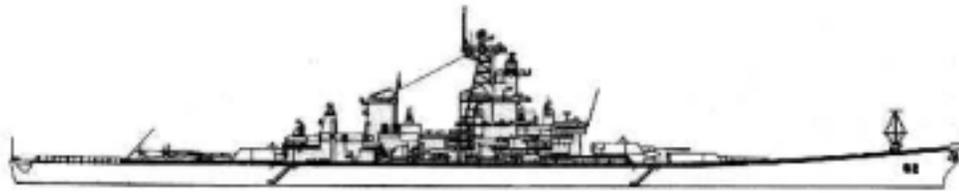
As we all know, this is an election year. Our four year term will come to an end at the Reunion in Washington, D.C. As many of you can attest to, I have been affiliated with this association for twenty two years. I have worked in many ways to help our organization grow. It has been a pleasure to have been a part of watching the changes over all these years and I am proud of my part in that growth.

I would like to thank all the people who have helped in small stores, registration, 50/50 raffles, the ladies on the seating committee and all the others who have had a hand in making this organization so strong. Having said all this, I will not be running for reelection at the Reunion. It is time to let someone else take the helm. I wish you all "Fair Winds and God Speed"

Respectfully Yours,

Richard Mc Dowell  
Membership Director

**If you are booked into the Doubletree Hotel  
Please Cancel & Rebook into the Hilton Gardin City**



Ed Campbell \* 2354 Mountain View Ct. \* Fairfield, CA 94533-1081 \* 707-428-5417 \* [ed\\_campbell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ed_campbell@sbcglobal.net)

## **FROM THE WEBMASTER**

Dear Shipmates,

March 2004!! Hard to believe it's here already. I can remember a time when I looked ahead to 2000 (the turn of the Century) and remarked I probably wouldn't live to see it. Of course, I was 20 and 50 seemed older than God.

Some of you may remember that I wanted to have the Ship's Store up on the Web Site by this time. I really felt that the projected date was a "no-brainer". Well, it was if the guy who was helping did what he was supposed to do. He did not and I won't provide you the usual litany of excuses. The new date is April first and I can assure you that until it's up and running my friend the computer "genius" is going to see another side of my personality.

Our new Jersey Bounce editor, Peter Vande Walle, worked his young tail off since the last issue. I'm not sure he knew what he was getting into when he volunteered. Pete had to learn a significant amount about two software programs – well, he only had to learn about one but he wouldn't take an old man's advice until after he tested his own belief. ....you know how kids can be. .... Nevertheless, he did learn and he did work hard to produce a piece of work that prints beautifully AND can be posted on the Web site in a standard format that is small enough to download using dial-up internet access. Good work, Pete. I'll recommend we keep you for another day or so.

The ability to post the Jersey Bounce on our Web Site represents a potentially significant saving in our operating budget. However, we will continue to mail it to those of you who do not have computers with internet access and even those of you who do but don't feel ready to trust the computer over the USPS.

E-mail address change notification is improving. Thank you all for that and please keep up the good work.

Some of you may have noticed we didn't post any photos of last year in Las Vegas. I didn't take any and apparently neither did you. That's OK. This year in Washington D.C promises to be filled with photo opportunities. Don't forget your digital cameras.

See you in September.





## **A Message From The President**

TO: ALL HANDS

RE: URGENT MESSAGE

FROM: RICHARD ESSER, PRESIDENT

For the past few years our organization has been operating very well financially. We have been able to give back to the membership. Such as, the free lunch in 2002 in Camden at a cost of \$18,000. Every year each member receives a bumper sticker, reunion attendees receive a monogrammed cup and a complimentary breakfast. Each member receives two Newsletters. This is all done at a cost to the members of \$20.00 in dues. As with everything in this day and age, costs are rising. I am proposing that each member and associate member, in order to help defray the cost of the breakfast, be responsible for half of the breakfast cost.

Three years ago I started a 50/50 mail raffle. The organization takes 50% and pays out 4 places. First place is normally \$1,000.00 or better. Each member receives 12 tickets for \$10.00. The return has not been what I expected. Out of between 1300 and 1400 books mailed out we average 25-30% return. While what we receive is appreciated, I know we can do better. We also award two \$750.00 scholarships every year and the return from this raffle helps with the scholarship cost.

I patterned this raffle from a friend from the USS Salem, a much smaller group. They take in between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

Read this letter then read it again, I know how you feel about the ship. Please support the raffle in any way you can.

Thank you.

### **HELP WANTED**

**SEATING COORDINATOR FOR OUR 2005 REUNION ABOARD THE USS NEW JERSEY.  
GOOD PAY, MANY BENEFITS, ANYONE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT:**

***DICK ESSER***  
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## "Plan of the Day"

### USS New Jersey Veterans Association, Inc. 17th Annual Reunion - Washington D.C. September 29 - October 3, 2004

#### **Wednesday; 29 September 2004**

Check-in day - Hilton Hotel Crystal City, VA

- 0900 Registration & Small Stores Room Open
- 0900 Super Sightseeing Tour of Washington D.C. Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 1600 Registration & Small Stores Room Closed
- 1845 Welcome Aboard Pasta Buffet Party at Hilton Hotel (**Bring Your Ticket**)

#### **Thursday; 30 September 2004**

- 0900 Registration & Small Stores Open
- 0900 Super Sightseeing Tour of Washington D.C. Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 0900 VIP Veterans Tour Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 1600 Registration & Small Stores Closed
- 1800 Spectacular Dinner Cruise on Spirit of Washington - Bus Leaves Hotel (Optional)
- 1900 Shear Madness at The Kennedy Center - Bus Leaves Hotel (Optional)
- 1900 Illuminations Night Tour of D.C. Leaves Hotel

#### **Friday; October 1, 2004**

- 0730 Boat Cruise & Tour of Mt. Vernon Tour (Optional)
- 0900 Registration & Small Stores Open
- 0900 Super Sightseeing Tour of Washington D.C. Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 0900 VIP Veterans Tour Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 0900 Annapolis and the U.S. Naval Academy Tour (Optional)
- 0900 The Spy Museum Tour Departs (Optional)
- 0930 The New Air & Space Museum Tour (Optional)
- 1000 USS New Jersey Vietnam Veterans at "The Wall"
- 1030 Sumptuous Luncheon Cruise aboard the Dandy Dinner Boat (Optional)
- 1600 Registration & Small Stores Closed
- 1800 Group Dinner & Illumination Tour Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 1800 Spectacular Dinner Cruise on Spirit of Washington - Bus Leaves Hotel (Optional)
- 1900 Illuminations Night Tour of D.C. Departs Hotel (Optional)

### **Important Dates To Remember**

Hotel Reunion Reservations Must be made No Later Than August 7th, 2004  
To Guarantee Tour Selection and Hotel Room Special Pricing  
No Refunds for Cancellations without Insurance after August 11th, 2004  
No Refunds for any reason after September 25th, 2004



## "Plan of the Day"

### USS New Jersey Veterans Association, Inc. 17th Annual Reunion - Washington D.C. September 29 - October 3, 2004

#### **Saturday; October 2, 2004**

- 0900 Registration & Small Stores Closed
- Room open for Socializing
- 0900 Memorial Service at the U.S. Navy Memorial (Optional)
- 1000 The Spy Museum Tour Departs Hotel (Optional)
- 1700 Photographer for Portraits and Cruise Book in hall
- 1845 Doors Open for Dinner Dance **Bring Your Dinner & Raffle Tickets**
- 1900 Welcome address by our President Richard Essar
- 1905 Introduction of Guest Speaker
- 1910 Invocation by Chaplain
- 1915 Dinner Served - **Bring Your Ticket**
- 2000 Guest Speaker
- 2030 Group & Era Pictures
- 2045 Dance to the sounds of
- 2100 Band Break / Drawing for 50/50 Raffle and Door Prizes
- 2400 Taps

#### **Sunday; October 3, 2004**

- 0700 Doors Open for Breakfast Buffet & General Meeting
- 0730 Invocation by Chaplin
- 0735 Pledge of Allegiance
- 0745 Breakfast Buffet
- 0845 Call to Colors
- 0850 Memorial Service
- 0855 General Meeting / Nominations and Election of New Officers & Directors for 2004 - 2008
- 1135 Awards Presentations
- 1145 Mail in Raffle Drawing (Winner Need Not Be Present)
- 1200 Election Results
- 1215 Retire Colors

### **Important Dates To Remember**

Hotel Reunion Reservations Must be made No Later Than August 7th, 2004  
To Guarantee Tour Selection and Hotel Room Special Pricing  
No Refunds for Cancellations without Insurance after August 11th, 2004  
No Refunds for any reason after September 25th, 2004

# USS NEW JERSEY 2004 REUNION EVENTS

## **“WELCOME ABOARD” PARTY AT THE HOTEL: \$20 p.p.** (Wednesday 9/29 – 6:45pm)

Join your mates for a kickoff celebration featuring a hot Pasta Bar, and all the fun you can have! Don't miss it!

## **SUPER SIGHTSEEING TOUR OF WASHINGTON DC**

**Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday (9:00-4:00) \$35 p.p.**

This fabulous sightseeing trip is a must while visiting D.C. You will see the most famous sights that make Washington so spectacular. Your professional tour guide will relate interesting anecdotes as you enjoy a riding “windshield tour” of D.C. with several photo stops. Some of the sites you will see include the White House, Capitol Hill, The Senate, Supreme Court, Treasury, the Pentagon, Fords Theatre, Watergate, the Kennedy Center, the Washington Monument and as much more as time permits. You will also visit the greatest Memorials including the Korean & Viet Nam (Wall), FDR, Iwo Jima, Lincoln, & the brand new WWII Memorial. You will have time for lunch on your own. Don't forget your camera! This is a thrilling day for everyone.

## **VIP VETERANS TOUR**

**Thursday & Friday (9:00– 4:00) \$35 p.p.** [www.arlingtoncemetery.org](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org)

This special day starts at *Arlington Cemetery* where you will ride the tram up to the “*Tomb of the Unknown*” and experience the famous “changing of the guard” ceremony. Then proceed to view the Kennedy gravesite and the *Eternal Flame*. Spend some time reflecting as you ride back to the bus. Then you are off to the *Washington Naval Yard*. You will have time to tour the wonderful museum tracing naval history from the Revolution to the Gulf Wars. You may also climb aboard the Destroyer USS Barry – a floating exhibit. There is time to also explore the Marine Corps Museum which houses a collection of paintings chronicling the history of the U S Marine Corps and has preserved both flags raised on Mt. Suribachi for viewing by future generations. A comprehensive collection of uniforms, flags, weapons, decorations, artifacts & documents from 1775 to the present day are displayed. Time permitting you will also visit the FDR and new WWII Memorials. Lunch will be on your own. Wear your walking shoes on this tour! (You must bring Picture ID to tour)

## **SPECTACULAR DINNER CRUISE**

**Thursday & Friday (6:00pm -10:30pm) \$69 & \$72 p.p.** [www.spiritofwashington.com](http://www.spiritofwashington.com)

This is always fun and everyone has a great time aboard the *Spirit of Washington*. This is a great opportunity to view some of Washington's riverfront sites aboard this sleek yacht. As you enjoy the ever-changing view of the Washington DC skyline you will dine on a bountiful Buffet dinner (Seafood, Beef, Chicken) including carving stations, six entrée selections and many side dishes and desserts. The *Spirit* offers three interior climate controlled decks plus outdoor observation decks. The ship comes alive after dinner as talented performers and dancers provide variety show entertainment and the DJ spins your favorite dance music. You may prefer to just relax and savor the view but in any case this is sure to be a memory maker and a wonderful evening out. Welcome aboard!

## **“SHEAR MADNESS” – AT THE KENNEDY CENTER:**

**Thursday (7:00 pm -11:00 pm) \$42 p.p.** [www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org)

Now in its 14th year this popular comedy “whodunit” is set in a fashionable part of DC at the *Shear Madness* Hair Styling Salon. The salon is the scene of a wacky murder, and the audience helps to solve the crime. With improvisation and audience participation, surprises are always around the corner. Note that this theatre is located in the famous *Kennedy Center* complex but is NOT the formal theater – dress is very casual. There will be an opportunity to explore this famous landmark on you own and see the spectacular view from the roof. Please eat dinner before the show. This will be a very special evening out.

## **ILLUMINATIONS – Night Tour of DC:**

**Thursday, Friday (7:00 pm -11:00 pm) \$24 p.p.**

When the sun goes down, Washington turns into a different city! You will see some of the city's most popular monuments and sites in a new light! Your evening tour will take you to floodlit memorials and grand buildings beautifully illuminated. Some of the sites include the illuminated dome of the Capitol building, the Lincoln, Jefferson, Washington and Iwo Jima Memorials, the White house and the Kennedy Center. Don't forget your camera! Simply stunning!!

# USS NEW JERSEY 2004 REUNION EVENTS

## ANNAPOLIS AND THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY TOUR (Lunch Included):

**Friday (9:00am – 4:00 p.m.) \$39** [www.navyonline.com](http://www.navyonline.com)

Annapolis was once the nation's capitol and remains much as it was; cobbled streets, filled with historic taverns, restaurants, specialty shops and a splendid *Old City Dock* area. You'll see the old *Capitol Building* as we head over to the venerable U.S. Naval Academy and step inside the Midshipman Officer Candidate's world. At the visitor's center and gift shop you will enjoy a movie – "*To Lead and to Serve*". Then you'll begin the walking tour featuring a visit to the Chapel referred to as the *Cathedral of the Navy* and the *Crypt of John Paul Jones- Father of the Navy*. Other highlights include the Midshipman's Dorm, and living areas, the Naval Museum and the "noon formation" of Cadets. A buffet lunch is included and is special because you will eat among the "Midshipmen" and swap sea stories.

Afterwards there will be time for browsing the little Annapolis shops filled with nautical curios and maybe an ice cream cone at the picturesque City Dock area. This is a lovely day with something for everyone. You must bring Picture ID to tour the USNA. Note: We cannot guarantee the viewing of building interiors.

## THE NEW AIR & SPACE MUSEUM

**Friday (9:30am -2:30pm) \$22** [www.nasm.si.edu](http://www.nasm.si.edu)

Perhaps you have recently heard about the grand opening of the new Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum's newest facility. The Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center has over 80 aircraft and dozens of space artifacts on display. The Lockheed SR-71 "Blackbird", Boeing B-29 Super fortress, "Enola Gay" and the Space Shuttle "Enterprise", the *Concorde*, to name a few. You can walk among the artifacts on the floor and view hanging aircraft from elevated walkways (skyways). Many engines, rockets, satellites, helicopters, airliners, ultra-lights, and experimental flying machines are all on display for the first time in a museum setting. Be one of the first in the country to see this sparkling new attraction – truly awe inspiring.

## SUMPTUOUS LUNCHEON CRUISE

**Friday (10:30am -3:30pm) \$52 p.p.** [www.dandydinnerboat.com](http://www.dandydinnerboat.com)

This may be the most memorable lunch you'll ever have! Board the elegant and sleek new *Nina's Dandy*, a boat similar to the riverboats of Paris. The *Nina's Dandy* was designed to cruise under the dramatic low-arched stone bridges of Washington DC. You'll cruise past our Nation's monuments to Georgetown and back to beautiful, historic Old Town Alexandria. You will dine on a gourmet 3-course luncheon while enjoying the view from the floor to ceiling windows in climate-controlled comfort. Please make your entrée selection on the reservation form. Note this is a different boat than the dinner cruise.

## BOAT CRUISE & TOUR of MT. VERNON

**Friday (7:30am -3:30pm) \$45 p.p.** [www.spiritofwashington.com](http://www.spiritofwashington.com)

**Enjoy the only fun-filled cruise to George Washington's Estate Home & Gardens – Mount Vernon.** Catch a fresh breeze on our outdoor decks or take in the sights while you relax in climate-controlled comfort on our beautiful interior decks. While cruising, you'll enjoy a narrated tour of the Potomac River and its famous landmarks. Then you'll have 3 hours to tour Mt. Vernon at your leisure exploring the life and times of General George Washington. There is a nice café on the premises for lunch and onboard the boat the snack bar features pastries, muffins, bagels, hot dogs, pizza, chips, candy, ice cold beer, soda, juice, bottled water, and more!

## GROUP DINNER & ILLUMINATIONS TOUR:

**Friday (6:00 pm – 11:00 pm) \$49 p.p.**

You are in the vicinity of the *Chesapeake Bay*, which means superb seafood. No trip is complete without dinner at *Phillip's* Seafood restaurant located on the waterfront, overlooking the Washington Channel & the Capital Yacht Club. *Phillip's* is famous for its all-you-can-eat *Waterman's Harvest Buffet*. This spectacular bounty features over 50 seafood and regional fare delights including crab cakes, oysters, clams, mussels, king crab legs, sushi, chowders, pasta, salmon as well as traditional fare like chicken and roast beef. There are also myriad dessert treats. Come hungry -this is going to be a wonderful evening out! A special treat follows dinner, as you will also enjoy our *Illuminations* tour at no extra cost.

# USS NEW JERSEY 2004 REUNION EVENTS

## THE SPY MUSEUM

**Friday (9:00-1:00) & Saturday (10:00-2:00) \$ 30 p.p.** [www.spymuseum.org](http://www.spymuseum.org)

Gain access to the largest collection of espionage artifacts ever placed on public display. Explore interactive exhibits about disguise, surveillance, threat analysis, and more. Discover the history of spying from biblical times to the present day. Examine over 200 spy gadgets, weapons, bugs, cameras, vehicles, and technologies. Learn about microdots and invisible ink, buttonhole cameras and submarine recording systems, bugs of all sizes and kinds, and ingenious disguise techniques developed by Hollywood for the CIA. Uncover the stories behind the spy craft, why and how these artifacts were developed, and by which side. Survey over 50 years of spy technology, developed by agencies from the OSS to the KGB, and still in use today. Cloak & dagger at its best!

## MEMORIAL SERVICE at the U.S. NAVY MEMORIAL:

**Saturday (9:00 am – 3:00 pm) \$25 p.p.** [www.lone-sailor.org](http://www.lone-sailor.org)

Board your luxury motor coach for a very special tour. Journey to the one and only U.S. Navy Memorial for a very special Memorial Service & Wreath Laying ceremony in your honor. Take photos with the “Lone Sailor” outside on the plaza featuring fountains with waters from the seven seas, and a stunning map of the world. You will have ample time to explore the Memorial attractions and even search for your records in the database (if you registered)(to enroll in the database go to [www.lone-sailor.org](http://www.lone-sailor.org)) You will also see an IMAX movie “AT SEA”, which is sure to thrill everyone and have time to browse the gift shop. Lunch and browsing will be on your own at Union Station – a site to see in itself.

## GALA BANQUET DINNER

**Saturday (6:45 pm at the Hotel)**

Enjoy your Banquet dinner with your friends at the *Hilton* Hotel. The dinner choices are London Broil with a Mushroom Sauce or Chicken Picatta (lemon butter & capers). Please select your dinner choice on your reservation form. Those failing to mark a dinner selection on the reservation form will be served SOS.

## GROUP BREAKFAST & ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday (7:00 am at the Hotel)**

Join your mates for a bountiful breakfast buffet at the hotel. The annual business meeting will follow thereafter.

## TOUR CANCELLATION INSURANCE

Should an emergency arise or you need to cancel your meal & tour reservations for health or any other reason, you can relax. With the purchase of this insurance you will be eligible for a full refund up until three (3) days prior to the start of the reunion. If you need to cancel – please call our office immediately (817-251-3551) for a cancellation number. If you have not purchased cancellation insurance all tour and meal money is non-refundable 6 weeks prior to the reunion, even for medical reasons. Protect your money with cancellation insurance. (Note: canceling with the hotel does not cancel your tour program)

## BANQUET TABLE SEATING REQUEST

If you wish to sit with certain people at the banquet meals you must list the name(s) of the people on your *TOUR RESERVATION FORM*. Please confirm with the other party that you wish to sit with. Both parties should list who they want to sit with on their forms so we may cross reference the requests. Single requests may not be honored. There are 10 seats at a table. If you are reserving a whole table(s), only one person should submit a list of all names to be at the table(s). Attach a separate sheet with your Reservation Form listing all the names. We will make every effort to honor your requests but due to limitations we cannot guarantee it. In general we will sit people from the same era together so please list that on your form.

## ***IMPORTANT:***

We need to know how many people to expect for next years reunion going back to visit the ship. If you plan on attending and staying at the host hotel please mark your answer on the space allotted on the *TOUR RESERVATION FORM*.

Your private reunion web page showing attendees will be posted at: [www.MilitaryReunionPlanners.com/BB62.htm](http://www.MilitaryReunionPlanners.com/BB62.htm)

You may view and print Reservation Forms and see a current Roster of who is coming!

USS NEW JERSEY RESERVATION FORM

Reunion Registration Fee - Everyone please pay (No charge for children) \_\_\_people at \$5. p.p.= \_\_\_

Wednesday, September 29th:

Event A: Super Sightseeing Tour of Washington (9:00am - 4:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$35 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event B: "Welcome Aboard" Party at the Hotel: (6:45pm at Hotel) \_\_\_people at \$20 p.p.= \_\_\_

Thursday, September 30th

Event C: Super Sightseeing Tour of Washington (9:00am - 4:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$35 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event D: VIP Veterans Tour (9:00am - 4:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$35 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event E: Spectacular Dinner Cruise (6:00pm - 10:30pm) \_\_\_people at \$69 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event F: "Shear Madness"- Kennedy Center (7:00pm - 11:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$42 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event G: Illuminations Night Tour of D.C. (7:00pm - 11:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$24 p.p.= \_\_\_

Friday, October 1st

Event H: Boat Cruise & Tour of Mr. Vernon (7:30am - 3:30pm) \_\_\_people at \$45 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event I: The Spy Museum Tour (9:00am - 1:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$30 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event J: Super Sightseeing Tour of Washington (9:00am - 4:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$35 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event K: VIP Veterans Tour (9:00am - 4:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$35 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event L: Annapolis & U.S. Naval Academy (Lunch included) (9:00am - 4:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$39 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event M: The New Air & Space Museum (9:30am - 2:30pm) \_\_\_people at \$22 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event N: Sumptuous Luncheon Cruise (10:30am - 3:30pm) \_\_\_people at \$52 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event O: Spectacular Dinner Cruise (6:00pm - 10:30pm) \_\_\_people at \$72 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event P: Group Dinner & Illuminations Tour (6:00pm - 11:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$49 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event Q: Illuminations Night Tour of D.C. (7:00pm - 11:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$24 p.p.= \_\_\_

Saturday, October 2nd

Event R: Memorial Service at the U.S. Navy Memorial (9:00am - 3:00pm) \_\_\_people at \$25 p.p.= \_\_\_
Event S: Gala Banquet Dinner: London Broil (6:45pm at Hotel) \_\_\_people at \$35 p.p.= \_\_\_
OR Gala Banquet Dinner: Chicken Picatta (6:45pm at Hotel) \_\_\_people at \$33 p.p.= \_\_\_

Sunday, October 3rd

Event T: Breakfast & Business Meeting (7:00am at Hotel)
BB 62 New Jersey Members \_\_\_people at \$9 p.p.= \_\_\_
Spouses and/or Additional Guests (Call for Kids Menu Pricing) \_\_\_people at \$18 p.p.= \_\_\_

Cancellation Insurance: (Protect your \$\$\$ - Full Refunds Available) \_\_\_people at \$10 p.p.= \_\_\_

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND \$\_\_\_\_\_ TO COVER ITEMS SELECTED

>>> PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_-Spouse/
Guest \_\_\_\_\_
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_
Phone:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact during Reunion: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph. \_\_\_\_\_
Years on BB-62: 19\_\_\_\_ to 19 \_\_\_\_ ERA: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_
Banquet Table Seating Request (Attach a separate sheet if you need more space): \_\_\_\_\_
Important: If we go back to the ship next year for a reunion, do you plan on attending: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not Sure \_\_\_

>>> SEND COMPLETED FORM BY AUGUST 11th WITH CHECK MADE OUT TO:

National Reunion Planners, P.O. Box 1588, Colleyville, TX 76034

You may wish to make a copy of this form for your records. For more information call weekdays: 817-251-3551 or Email: info@MilitaryReunionPlanners.com . Reservation forms and full payment must be received by August 7th, 2004. Request for refunds must be made in writing and postmarked before Aug. 7th . There is a \$3 refund processing fee. No refunds will be made after Aug. 11th for any reason unless you have purchased tour cancellation insurance. There is a \$25 returned check fee for NSF. Your cancelled check is your receipt & proof of purchase. NRP will not be held liable for failure of vendors to provide contracted services, or any injuries/accidents that occur during the reunion. Sorry, no refunds will be given after September 25th for any reason.



**MENU FOR CRYSTAL CITY HILTON  
U.S.S. NEW JERSEY VETERANS 17<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**

**WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2004-WELCOME ABOARD PARTY**

Doors Open @ 1845 – 2300 PASTA BUFFET \$20.00/per person, includes tax & gratuity  
Farfelle, Penne, Fettucine Pastas / Pesto, Alfredo & Marinara Sauces  
Italian Bread and Garlic Rolls / Mixed Garden Salad  
Two(2) Desserts / Coffee/Tea

**SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER 2004-DINNER DANCE**

Doors Open @ 18:45 – 24:00 Dinner served @ 19:15  
CHOICE OF: London Broil w/ Mushroom Sauce - \$35.00 per person inclusive  
Or  
Chicken Picatta - \$33.00 per person inclusive  
SERVED WITH: Potatoes/Rice, Chef's Vegetables, Mixed Salad, Rolls & Butter  
Dessert Selection, Coffee/Tea/Water

CHILDREN 13 years and older = Full Menu Price(Adult)  
CHILDREN 4-12 years old = ½ Menu Price  
CHILDREN 3 years and younger = Complimentary  
ALSO AVAILABLE: CHILDREN 12 and younger @ \$20.00/per child, inclusive  
Chicken Tenders, French Fries, Soda and Dessert

**SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 2004-BREAKFAST BUFFET**

Doors Open @ 07:00 Breakfast Begins @ 07:30  
MEMBERS & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS = \$ 9.00 inclusive  
WIFE, GUESTS AND CHILDREN = \$18.00 inclusive  
CHILDREN 10 YEARS AND UNDER FREE

**BREAKFAST – BUFFET**

Seasonal Sliced Fruit  
Chilled Orange Juice  
Muffins, Danish, Bagels & Crème Cheese  
Scrambled Eggs  
Bacon OR Sausage  
Home-style Potatoes  
Coffee/Tea

**If you are booked into the Doubletree Hotel  
Please Cancel & Rebook into the Hilton Garden City**



## **Were Are They Now? Admiral Richard D. Milligan**

Captain Milligan served as the Commanding Officer of the USS New Jersey beginning with the Change of Command Ceremony at sea on 15 September, 1983 relieving Commodore William (Wild Bill) Fogerty. A native son of Matawan, New Jersey, this was actually Captain Milligan's second tour at sea aboard the Big J having served a cruise as a Mid-Shipman in 1955. This tour of duty could not have been all that was expected as Captain Milligan guided New Jersey through the Panama Canal in route to Beirut, Lebanon and the longest 3 month shake down cruise in the history of the US Navy. Speaking with Admiral Milligan from his home in Pawleys Island, South Carolina, he recalled the crew and wardroom. "The men of New Jersey were unlike any crew I was ever associated with". The work involved in the Op "E" to take a ship as old as New Jersey and help her pass those qualifications. "I missed my daughter's graduation over that one, and it was worth it." The reserve rotation allowing some of our crewman to go home for 2 weeks of leave while we were deployed in Lebanon. "I made the decision that fathers who had not seen their newly born children yet would be the first to go home, after that it was done by lottery and I held Veto Power." When the XO, Captain McKenna, was selected I had to veto that one." For those of you who had family waiting in Long Beach, you will remember the roll of Mrs. Mary Buerk Milligan and the ombudsmen program. Current information was just a phone call away and pictures and video messages followed. "The New Jersey Wife Club was by far the strongest of any organization that I had ever seen in operation before or after. Their talents combined with Navy Relief took a bad situation for most of our families and made it livable. The visit with Bob Hope, Wayne Newton and other entertainers from the USO Tour brought a taste of the holidays out to our ship. "Bob Hope even called my wife and wished her a special Merry Christmas." There were troubled times to remember also. The bombing of the Marine Barracks, the death of Chief Gorchinski and the loss of SK3 Littlefield in Naples. "To this day, there has not been any final determination on the whereabouts of Littlefield" He also talked about the burial at sea of Chief Ski. "As we came upon San Diego waters, we had Chief Gorchinski's widow come aboard and I presented her with the Navy Achievement Medal and the Navy Commendation Medal. We then placed Chief Ski's ashes to sea." It was a somber moment to end a long time at sea." It was good to remember what we had gone through.

Upon receiving orders to report to Naval Air Systems Command, in Washington D.C., Captain Milligan was promoted to Flag Officer and worked as the Financial Manager for NASC. He then went on to be Commander Navy Cruiser Group 2 in the Carrier America Task Force out of Charleston, South Carolina and then back to Washington as the Budget Officer for the Department of the Navy. After retiring in 1992 with 32 years of service, Admiral Milligan returned to California and the Navy Post Graduate School in Monterey teaching Navy Financial Management. Today, Admiral Milligan is retired and living in Pawleys Island, South Carolina. He headed up the local Red Cross chapter helping to make a new center a reality. While no longer sailing ships, he does enjoy playing golf and being an advisor to the local Investment Club. Admiral Milligan has yet to return to the Battleship New Jersey, but thought that our next reunion in Camdon may be a good time to make that pilgrimage.

"Interesting about the New Jersey, I had served aboard 7 Navy Ships and as I look at the walls in my office, they are covered in items from the USS New Jersey, including my oil painting from 1984. Everything else seems to be in a box somewhere."

Do you have a suggestion for "Were Are They Now?" E-mail me at [peterv\\_bb62@yahoo.com](mailto:peterv_bb62@yahoo.com)



## The USS New Jersey Story

While a great deal of you already know most of these stories, some of the young bucks do not. I believe that in order to preserve the future of anything, you must understand its history. When we meet in reunion, the best parts are those spent discussing the day of our own generation and sharing those thoughts with those who will grow in that knowledge regardless of when that history was created. Over the next few issues of the Jersey Bounce, I would like to recreate some of that history and share information available from the Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships and published by the Navy Historical Center.

The USS New Jersey was commissioned at Philadelphia on 23 May, 1943 under the command of Captain Carl F. Holden. After completing her fitting out and training of the original Plankowner Crew, New Jersey passed through the Panama Canal on 7 January, 1944 war bound for Funafuti, Ellice Islands. After reporting for duty with the Fifth Fleet on 22 January New Jersey rendezvoused with task group 58.2 for the assault on the Marshall Islands. Not a bad start to a very distinguished career. From 29 January - 2 February, New Jersey ran screen defense for the Carriers and then "softened" up the islands of Kwajalein and Eniwetock in support of the troops who landed on 31 January.

On 4 February, New Jersey became the flagship for Admiral Raymond Spruance. Her first action as a flagship was a bold two day surface and air strike against the supposedly impregnable Japanese fleet base on Truk in the Carolines. On 17 & 18 February, the task force accounted for 2 Japanese light cruisers, 4 destroyers, 3 auxiliary cruisers, 2 sub tenders, an armed trawler and 23 other auxiliaries, not including small craft. New Jersey destroyed a trawler and with other ships, sank destroyer Maikaze before returning to the Marshalls on 19 February.

Between 17 March & 10 April, New Jersey first sailed with Rear Admiral Marc Mitscher's flagship USS Lexington (CV-16) for an air and surface bombardment of Mille, then rejoined Task Group 58.2 for a strike against shipping in the Palaus and bombarded Woleai.

New Jersey's next war cruise, 13 April - 4 May began and ended at Majuro. She screened the carrier striking force with air support to the invasion of Aitape, Tanahmerah Bay and Humboldt Bay, New Guinea. She then bombed shipping and shore installations at Truk while splashing 2 enemy torpedo bombers. The 16" salvos pounded Ponape on 1 May destroying fuel tanks, badly damaging the airfield and demolishing a headquarters building. Next up was the invasion of the Marianas. The Japanese response to this was to order its Mobile Fleet to attack and annihilate the American invasion force. Acting as a protective screen around the carriers while American and Japanese pilots duelled in the Battle of the Philippine Sea. The next 2 days were to pronounce the end of Japanese naval aviation as the "Marianas Turkey Shoot" meant the loss of some 400 planes and their pilots, the sinking of 3 Japanese carriers, the damaging of 2 carriers and a battleship. New Jersey's final contribution to the conquest of the Marianas was in strikes on Guam and the Palaus. On 24 August she broke the flag of Admiral William F. Halsey becoming flagship for the Third Fleet.

Over the next few months the targets were the Visayas, Southern Philippines, Manila, Cavite, Panay, Negros, Lete, Cebu while ranging the waters of Okinawa and Formosa. New Jersey took part in the battle at San Bernadino Strait where she struck hard at both the Japanese Southern and Center Forces sinking a battleship on 23 October. Then continuing with strikes on central and southern Luzon.

From 30 Dec 1944 - 25 Jan 1945 on her last cruise as Admiral Halsey's Flagship New Jersey guarded the carriers for airstrikes on Formosa, Okinawa, Luzon, Indo-China, Hong Kong, Swatow and Amoy. She stood in support of the USS Essex (CV-9) in the air attack on Iwo Jima and on the first major carrier raid on Tokyo. During the final months of the war, New Jersey was overhauled at Puget Sound Naval Yard. With stops in Pearl Harbor and Eniwetock she once again became the flagship of the Fifth Fleet under Admiral Spruance. Arriving in Tokyo Bay on 17 September, she was relieved by the USS Iowa and took aboard thousands of homeward bound troops on her way to San Francisco.

New Jersey returned to Bayonne, New Jersey in celebration of her 4th birthday on 23 May 1947. From there she was assigned as a training ship. Over 2000 Navy Academy and NROTC midshipmen trained on New Jersey including her future skipper; Captain Richard Milligan. She was then decommissioned on 30 June 1948 and assigned to Atlantic Reserve Fleet. This was to be a short lived retirement as the winds of war in Korea would soon call her back to service.



## Items Presently On Hand in Small Stores

Golf Shirt (Blue) – Embroidered on front over pocket	\$22.00
Golf Shirt (White) – W/ Pocket Screen Printed Front & Back Available in Large & Extra Large Only	\$19.00
Sweatshirt (Blue) – Embroidered Available in Medium, Large & Extra Large	\$21.00
Satin Baseball Jacket (Royal Blue) – Embroidered on Front / Screen Print of Ship on Back Available in Large & Extra Large Only	\$36.00
Coach Style Jacket (Navy Blue) USS New Jersey Silhouette Embroidered Left Chest / Available in Medium, Large & Extra Large	\$26.00
Hat – USS New Jersey on Front “WWII” on back “Korea” on back	\$12.00 ea. “Plankowner” on back “Vietnam” on back
Hat – (White) USS New Jersey “WWII” on back	\$12.00 ea. “Plankowner” on back “Korea” on back
Hat – (Red) – USS New Jersey ALL HATS AVAILABLE IN SMALL, MEDIUM & LARGE	\$12.00 ea.
Socks (White) – USS New Jersey BB-62	\$8.00 pair
<b><u>PINS:</u></b>	\$4.00 ea.
Lone Sailor	USS New Jersey BB-62
Cross Flags Navy	Cross Flags WWII Veterans
Cross Flags Vietnam Veterans	WWII Veteran
Korea Veteran	Vietnam Veteran
USS New Jersey Reunion Lapel Pin	

**SHIPPING AND HANDLING – ALL ITEMS \$4.95**

**Mark Your Required History String (s)**

Indicate your required Reunion History Badges by placing an "X" in the appropriate Column next to the City you attended

**(Note: Each of the Following Strings are \$2.00 Each)**

Badge Name		Crew	Guest
Plankowner		_____	
City:	Year		
Long Beach, CA	'82	_____	_____
Atlantic City, NJ	'84	_____	_____
Indianapolis, IN	'86	_____	_____
New Orleans, LA	'88	_____	_____
Daytona Beach, FL	'90	_____	_____
Nashville, TN	'92	_____	_____
Cherry Hill, NJ	'93	_____	_____
San Diego, CA	'94	_____	_____
Norfolk, VA.	'95	_____	_____
Fort Mitchell, KY.	'96	_____	_____
Danvers, MA.	'97	_____	_____
Colorado Springs, CO	'98	_____	_____
Seattle, WA.	'99	_____	_____
Daytona, FL.	'00	_____	_____
Branson, MO.	'01	_____	_____
Cherry Hill, NJ.	'02	_____	_____
Las Vegas, NV	'03	_____	_____
Washington, DC	'04	_____	_____

If ordering more than (1) Guest String, please make attachment listing Guest Data for Badge and Associated Reunion History Required. Include contents of the attachment in Total Cities / Guest Badge QTY In Pricing.

PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR PHONE NUMBER WITH ALL SMALL STORE ORDERS

Total Cities Selected \_\_\_\_\_

**Pricing Selection:**

	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Price</u>	=	<u>Total</u>
Crew Badge	_____	X	\$5.00	=	_____
Guest Badge(s)	_____	X	\$5.00	=	_____
Style I	_____	X	\$5.00	=	_____
Style II	_____	X	\$3.00	=	_____
Total Cities Selected	_____	X	\$2.00	=	_____
Shipping & Handling Charges					<b>\$1.00</b>
			Total		\$ _____

**Make Checks / Money Orders Payable To:      Joseph Porambo**

**Mail Completed Order Form To:**

**Joseph S. Porambo**  
**150 Elder Avenue**  
**Chesapeake, VA 23325**  
 E-Mail: [porambo@msn.com](mailto:porambo@msn.com)

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

## USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) - NAME BADGE ORDER FORM

How to complete this form:

1. Use Section I to select Badge Colors
2. Use Section II to request Crew & Guest Name Badges and Style of Guest Badge Desired
3. Use Section III to provide Personal Data for Display on the Badge
4. Use Back of Form to select your Reunion Attendance History

Section I – (Select Badge Color by placing an “X” in the appropriate Box):

**Sailors – Select The Box**  
White W/ Blue Letters

Sailors Mark Here \_\_\_\_\_



**Marines – Select This Box**  
Red / White Letters

Marines Mark Here \_\_\_\_\_



Section II (Select Crew and Guest Badge Type by placing and Z in the Selected Box)

Crew Bade & Style I Guest Badge Navy  
\$5.00 Each

Crew Badge & Style I Guest Badge Marine  
\$5.00 Each

USS New Jersey  
BB-62



Joseph S. Porambo  
Korea 5/6 Div.  
1952 - 1955



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
USS New Jersey  
BB-62

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide Sailor Crew Badge  
\_\_\_\_\_ Provide Sailor Guest Badge

\_\_\_\_\_ Provide Marine Crew Badge  
\_\_\_\_\_ Provide Marine Guest Badge

USS NEW JERSEY  
BB-62



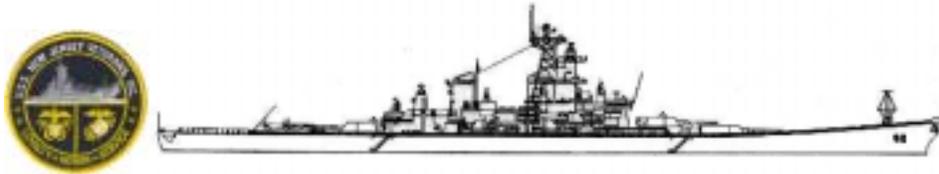
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Provide text on lines provided for guest badge

Please provide name of person on badge

Lines left blank will be left clear.

Coming Soon!!! **On Line Ship Store Ordering** Coming Soon!!!  
Look for it on our website  
[www.usnewjersey.org](http://www.usnewjersey.org)



## **USS NEW JERSEY VETERANS INC / SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

U.S.S. NEW JERSEY VETERANS, INC will maintain Scholarship Awards to be given annually. A committee, appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors will make recommendations to the assembled Members at a General Membership Meeting for approval. Applications for the Scholarship Award must be received by the committee not later than July 15, 2004.

Applications postmarked later than July 15, 2004 will not be accepted.

### **GUIDELINES**

1. No committee Member's family or relatives are eligible for an award
2. Scholarships will be awarded to deserving students who have maintained a "B" or 3.0 Grade Point Average
3. Student must be a Graduating Senior, attending an Accredited High School / Vocation Technical Institution. Graduating in the Class of 2004.
4. Applications must be recommended by their High School Counselor.
5. Award must be used at an Accredited Education / Technical Institution for Undergraduate Studies.
6. Awards are Not Available for Graduate Study
7. The Award will be paid directly to the Institution selected.
8. Publicity will be done through the USS New Jersey Veterans Newsletter.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

1. Any son, daughter or grandchild of a member in good standing, includes children of a member in good standing who passed way during the current membership year. (Must be a USS New Jersey Veteran)
2. Must be a High School Senior, Graduating in the Class of 2004.
3. Official Transcripts for the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grades, submitted with Application
4. Two (2) Academic References
5. Student's Personal Resume
6. Student's Hand Written Essay
7. Name of Educational / Technical Institution you will attend
8. June 1, 2004 is the last date to request Scholarship Application.
9. Scholarship winners will be notified by phone and a follow-up letter from the President of the USS New Jersey Veterans Inc.

### **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INCLUDED IN NEWSLETTER**

**Submit Application to:** **Mr. Richard Esser**  
3930 Meister Road  
Lorain, OH 44053

# War - Stories!

[www.war-stories.com/dreadnought.htm](http://www.war-stories.com/dreadnought.htm)

## Dreadnaught

By Bryon Summons

U.S.S. New Jersey Duty was probably the least hazardous duty in Vietnam. Who would want to fire on a ship with that type of firepower. We were off the coast in December on patrol between the coast and Tiger Island. The gun emplacement on Tiger Island decided to try their luck and lopped a shot at us. I was on the mess deck with Captain Snyder when he announced over the loud speaker that we were going to "*condition yellow*". He then came back on and told the crew that we had just been fired upon, he said it looked like someone had teed-up a golf ball at us! Our 16 inch guns were at the ready and we were told that the battery would fire on the gun position.

A few minutes later, we were told that the emplacement had been silenced, *permanently*. Those 16 inch guns were awesome. I have spoken with Marines that were in country, who either heard the shells go over their heads towards targets or had seen the craters that they left behind.

The New Jersey received a Presidential citation while serving in Vietnam. A Marine firebase was being overrun during the Tet Offensive. We were called on line to offer support. The port five inch battery fired all night long. The Marines called for fire right on top of their position, things were really going bad for them. The morning after, I woke up feeling like I had not gotten much sleep. As usual, I was up early before reveille. I went to the mess decks and got a cup of coffee then went topside. I thought it was strange that the hatch that went to the fantail from the mess decks was closed, and I had to crawl up through the scuttle. When I got to the fantail, there were five inch 38 shell casings all over the deck, hip deep. I was amazed at what I saw. I asked a Gunners Mate picking up casings, what had taken place. Well, he looked at me as if I were out of it. He then proceeded to tell me that we had been in a fire fight all night long. I had slept through the whole war!!! No wonder I felt like I hadn't gotten any sleep. My bunk was on the starboard side and the battery had never fired a round. There are some good photos in the cruise book.



Do you enjoy reading stories from fellow Veterans about their experiences? Look into the web-site listed about for hundreds of first hand accounts of the action faced by members of all branches of service. Have a story to share, send it to your editor for consideration: [peter\\_v\\_bb62@yahoo.com](mailto:peter_v_bb62@yahoo.com)

**P.S. Coming to the reunion in Washington D.C.?**

Bring your cruise book to help share the stories that come from the pictures and memories



## USS New Jersey Veteran's BB-62 Memorial Taps List

*Fading light dims the sight,  
and a star gems the sky, gleaming bright  
from afar drawing nigh -- falls the night*

*Day is done, gone the sun  
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky  
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh*

*Then good night, peaceful night,  
Till the light of the dawn shineth bright,  
God is near, do not fear -- Friend, Good Night*



<b>Douglas W. Boyd</b>	<b>FM Division</b>	<b>1950's ERA</b>
<b>Tim Norton</b>	<b>#2 Fireroom</b>	<b>Vietnam</b>
<b>C.M.A.A. Lyle Eugene Chastain</b>		
<b>Mr. Charles Or Stone</b>		
<b>Victor Sorrentino</b>	<b>A-Div</b>	<b>WW II</b>
<b>Richard Power</b>	<b>E-Div</b>	<b>WW II</b>
<b>Elias J. Simadiris</b>		<b>WW II</b>

**God bless these fine shipmates and their families**



### **Are You Joining Us In Camden in 2005**

In 2002, The USS New Jersey Veterans Association held its annual reunion in Cherry Hill, NJ about our home, the USS New Jersey. Well over 1350 fellow members came together for a very successful get-together. For those of you who were in attendance, you know that things got a bit cramped. Better yet, if you were from the Lebanon ERA or in some cases, the Vietnam ERA you were relegated to passageway seating. Kind of reminded me of being a kid again at Grandma's for Thanksgiving. Anyway, in order to help make our gathering a bit more comfortable and pleasant we are asking that any of you who are planning on attending the reunion on board The Big "J" in 2005 to please check the box on this years Reunion Registration OR send Ray Casey an e-mail at [info@militaryreunionplanners.com](mailto:info@militaryreunionplanners.com).



### Winter Storms Ices Down USS New Jersey And Visitors

Touring the USS New Jersey is an incredible experience. As those of you who have gone on board can attest too, there are few memories that strike as hard as walking the decks, saluting the Ensign and stepping up on to the bridge for a view from Admiral Nimitz bridge chair. Now try to imagine doing it with 20mph winds and a temperature of -30 with the wind-chill factored. For you and I, we would probably say, "Just another day in the North Atlantic". For the average ticket buying civilian, its "I'll think I wait till it at least gets a little less windy!" So goes the tour business aboard the Big "J". Winter weather and absolutely mind numbing heating costs have forced the ship to change its hours of operation during January and February to be open Friday through Monday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



### World War II Memorial

On May 25th, 1993 then President Bill Clinton signed the public law authorizing the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish a World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. It wasn't until Veteran Day, November 11th, 2000 that the ground breaking ceremony was held. And on Saturday, May 29th, 2004, Memorial Day Weekend, the dedication of the World War II Memorial will finally be held on the Mall in Washington, D.C. taking its rightful and long overdue place in history commemorating the sacrifices of America's "Greatest Generation."

Through long and tireless fund raising campaigns by Senator, and WWII Veteran, Bob Dole, Fredrick Smith, President of FedEx, actor Tom Hanks and the volunteers of so many service organizations, this remembrance will be open for all to experience. A total exceeding \$193 million dollars was received in cash and pledges including \$16 million in Federal Grants. It will be dedicated to the 16 million men and women who served in our armed forces and the more then 400,000 who died on the battlefields and in the seas. It is intended to remind every person from everywhere that Americans have and will continue to fight around the world to right the wrongs of tyranny and to secure the peace and freedom owed to every man as is promised by God. It will stand as a reminder of what Americans can accomplish when bonded together to fight for what is a right and just cause. It will stand as a reminder of a time and place in history that will live in infamy. As Sir Winston Churchill said so well, "If this civilization shall last for a 1000 years, men will still call this their finest hour."

While tickets to most of the events have long since been taken, you and I attending the USS New Jersey Veterans Reunion will have the opportunity to see this great testament to our Nation and its World War II Veterans. You can register for inclusion in the memorial data base by going to <http://www.wwiimemorial.com/> and clicking on the WWII REGISTRY section. There is also a search area to help look for veterans you may have lost touch with over the years.

